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Ex-Mexican Aide Charged in Stolen Car Ring

SAN DIEGO, April 23 (UPI) — Mexico's former security chief, who came to the United States to file a libel suit over a magazine article that said he was involved in a stolen automobile ring, was arrested Friday night on charges stemming from the operation.

Miguel Nassar Haro, who filed an \$11 million suit against Time magazine Wednesday in Los Angeles, was a key figure in the Reagan Administration's dismissal of United States Attorney William H. Kennedy of San Diego. Mr. Kennedy was dismissed for publicly identifying Mr. Nassar as a key in-

former in Mexico for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mr. Nassar, 50 years old, was taken into custody by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as he left the Federal courthouse here, where he testified before a grand jury Friday and Thursday after being subpoenaed earlier this week. He was booked on charges of transporting stolen vehicles and conspiracy and was being held in a San Diego prison on \$200,000 bail. A preliminary hearing was set for May 3.

The stolen car ring, which operated in San Diego and Orange counties, re-

sulted in vehicles worth \$30 million being taken from new car lots, shipped across the border and sold in Mexico.

Prosecution Is Approved

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 23 — The Justice Department gave approval Friday for charges to be filed against Mr. Nassar because it was no longer deemed necessary to shield his intelligence connections, department officials said.

Approval to prosecute Mr. Nassar had been withheld because C.I.A. officials told the Justice Department last November that he was a key United States intelligence source in Central America, but that role was recently exposed.

Denies Role in Thefts

SAN DIEGO, April 24 (AP) — Mr. Nassar said Thursday in a sidewalk news conference outside the Federal courthouse here that he had cooperated with United States officials in criminal matters but had not been a paid informer for the Central Intelligence Agency. He also denied any involvement in automobile theft.